



# FACT SHEET



## REUSING EXCESS ASSETS CREATES JOBS IN NEVADA

### Office of Worker & Community Transition

#### Background and Challenges

The Nevada Test Site (NTS) has been a research location for nuclear weapons tests and a variety of other defense and energy-related programs since the early 1950's. Although there is a moratorium on nuclear testing, the Department of Energy (DOE) has been directed to maintain its basic capability and readiness to resume nuclear weapons testing. Since 1988, 5,520 prime contractor positions have been lost.

#### The Path to Progress

The NTS Development Corporation (NTSDC) was created in June 1995 as the Community Reuse Organization for community transition in the NTS area. It is a non-profit entity that facilitates the development of sustainable private, commercial activities that maximize utilization of DOE resources, expand non-government opportunities, and add long-term value to the regional economy. NTSDC has successfully attracted several private businesses to the NTS site, creating job opportunities and realizing extended facility reuse. Fluid Tech, Inc. and Kistler Aerospace are highlighted as a few of the private companies participating in the community transition activities.

#### Community Success Stories

In an effort to support the continuing operation at the NTS, the Department made unused facilities available to private businesses creating job opportunities for area NTS residents. The Department also designated certain areas of the site, now known as SPACEPORT NEVADA, for aerospace activities through an economic development use permit. Private businesses can perform launch, landing, operational support and other aerospace activities that contribute to facility reuse and result in saved costs for the Department.



Kistler K-1 Vehicle,  
anticipated first launch  
in 2001

#### NTSDC Creates Jobs through Site Reuse

##### *Fluid Tech, Inc.*

- Fluid Tech, Inc., a Nevada-based company that decontaminates radioactive equipment and certifies it for reuse has occupied an unused facility since February 1998.
- Fluid Tech, Inc. has flourished and even requested additional space to provide for the growth and expansion of its operations.
- Fluid Tech, Inc. has created 32 jobs to-date and helped to diversify the regional economy.



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### **SPACEPORT NEVADA**

- Kistler Aerospace plans to utilize SPACEPORT NEVADA at the NTS facility to place communication satellites into low earth orbit. The design for the Kistler launch vehicle allows for recovery and reuse. It is anticipated Kistler Aerospace will create more than 200 jobs at the site.
- The NTSDC is also pursuing VentureStar®, NASA's replacement for the space shuttle as a launch site. If successful, in excess of 2,000 high-value jobs will be created.
- SPACEPORT NEVADA will also attract numerous ancillary businesses, such as specialty gas producers and payload processing companies, creating not only more jobs but also creating a greater range of employment opportunities.



Federal and local officials witness the signing of an agreement to place a triple-effects chiller at Clark County Government Center.

### **Digital Ink Design**

- Displaced test site workers acquired excess equipment through the NTSDC to start a graphics design business. A business development loan was also executed. The firm agreed to hire 10 other displaced workers. In addition, the DOE was offered a contract for graphic services at a reduced rate.
- After two years of operation, Digital Ink Design reports only 25 percent of their business now derives from the Federal Government.

### **Rocky Research**

- NTSDC facilitated the transfer of excess analytical lab equipment to a Boulder City, Nevada business. The firm has been able to expand their business and hire additional workers to satisfy the demand for analytical services in the region.
- In October 1998, during GlobeEx, the international alternative energy conference sponsored by the NTSDC, Clark County, Oak Ridge National Laboratory and NTSDC announced the placement of a triple-effects chiller, developed in part by Rocky Research and York, at the Clark County Government Center. The results will be a considerable energy cost savings.

#### **Contact Information**

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